

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Figure 7 has been amended to add a Prior Art legend.

The specification was amended to correct the noted spelling error on page 16.

The claims were amended to remedy the stated bases of objection. Withdrawal of the objections is solicited. If there should be any further amendment required, it is requested that the undersigned attorney be contacted by telephone to agree to any such needed amendment.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation that claims 8, 10, 11 and 15-17 were allowed.

Applicant also acknowledges with appreciation that claims 2, 3, and 20 were indicated to be directed to allowable subject matter.

In reliance thereupon, claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations of allowable claim 2 and claim 18 has been amended to include the recitations of allowable claim 20 and intermediate claim 19.

Allowance of claim 1, its dependent claims, and claim 18 is therefore solicited.

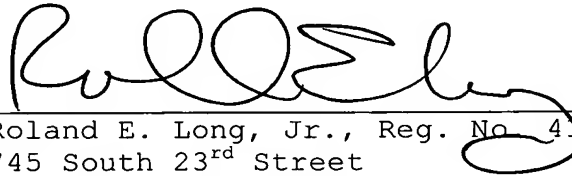
In view of the above, all of the independent claims are believed to be allowable or allowed. All remaining dependent claims depend from one of these allowed or allowable claims.

Accordingly, applicant believes the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roland E. Long, Jr.', is written over a horizontal line.

Roland E. Long, Jr., Reg. No. 41,949
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

REL/lrs

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item:

- replacement drawing sheet for Fig. 7

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Figure 7 has been amended to add a Prior Art legend.